

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. - 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) 4-nitroxybutyl ester of 2-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid ~~4-nitroxybutyl ester of 2-(S)-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid~~ having an enantiomeric excess of the (S) form higher than or equal to 97%.

7. (Currently Amended) 4-nitroxybutyl ester of 2-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid ~~4-nitroxybutyl ester of 2-(S)-(6-methoxy-2-naphthyl)-propanoic acid~~ having an enantiomeric excess of the (S) form higher than or equal to 98%.